

January 3, 2017

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Multiple Agencies Coordinating Further HAZMAT Response

Amarillo, TX – The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas Panhandle Poison Center (TPPC), City of Amarillo, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are working collaboratively to investigate the tragic incident which occurred as a result of misuse of a regulated pesticide known as aluminum phosphide. The site of the incident is secured and does not pose any known health hazards to the surrounding community. Multiple local, state, and federal agencies are committed and working together to ensure the public's safety.

While it appears that this tragic incident has been contained, concerns remain about whether this product may still be present in the community. If you believe that you have or know the whereabouts of this regulated pesticide, please contact the Poison Center at 800-222-1222. A representative will have a series of questions to assist you in determining appropriate steps to follow based upon the information you provide.

If you are not a licensed pesticide applicator and believe you may have aluminum or zinc phosphide in your possession, the City of Amarillo advises that you contact the Poison Center. Only licensed professionals should have access to and are equipped to properly dispose of this product. You should not attempt to dispose of these chemicals yourself as there is a risk of injury and death. The Poison Center representative will obtain the necessary information and provide you with further instructions for disposal of the product by the appropriate authorities.

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